

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1                   1.       A medical data access system, the medical data access system  
2 comprising:  
3                   a system controller communicably coupled to a gateway controller;  
4                   wherein the gateway controller includes a first processor and a first  
5 computer readable medium, and wherein the first computer readable medium includes  
6 instructions executable by the first processor to:  
7                   receive a data set comprising objective data collected by a physician;  
8                   receive a data set comprising subjective data collected by a physician;  
9                   communicate at least a portion of the objective data collected by the  
10 physician to the system controller;  
11                   communicate at least a portion of the subjective data collected by the  
12 physician to the system controller; and  
13                   wherein the system controller includes a second processor and a  
14 second computer readable medium, and wherein the second computer readable  
15 medium includes instructions executable by the second processor to:  
16                   receive a data set in a first format from an implantable medical device;  
17                   store the data stream in the first format to a raw database;  
18                   identify a group associated with the implantable medical device,  
19 wherein the group is one of a plurality of groups;  
20                   select an interpreter associated with the group;  
21                   apply the interpreter to the data stream, wherein the data stream is  
22 converted from the first format to a second format;  
23                   store at least a portion of the converted data set in the second format to  
24 a database associated with the gateway controller;  
25                   validate the portion of the objective data collected by the physician;  
26 and  
27                   validate the portion of the subjective data collected by the physician.

1                   2.       The system of claim 1, wherein the second computer readable medium  
2 further includes instructions executable by the second processor to:

3 identify a reimbursement amount associated with a portion of data including  
4 elements selected from a group consisting of: the objective data collected by the physician,  
5 the subjective data collected by the physician; and the data set from the implantable medical  
6 device; and

7 based at least in part on validating at least one of the objective data collected  
8 by the physician, the subjective data collected by the physician; and the data set from the  
9 implantable medical device, approving issuance of the reimbursement amount.

1 3. The system of claim 1, wherein the system further comprises a  
2 diagnostic controller communicably coupled to the system controller, and wherein the second  
3 computer readable medium includes instructions executable by the second processor to:  
4 store at least a portion of the converted data set in the second format to a  
5 database associated with the diagnostic controller, wherein the portion of the converted data  
6 set includes diagnostic limited information.

1 4. The system of claim 3, wherein the diagnostic controller includes a  
2 third processor and a third computer readable medium, and wherein the third computer  
3 readable medium includes instructions executable by the third processor to:  
4 provide a portion of the diagnostic limited information to a plurality of  
5 recipients;  
6 receive a diagnosis data associated with the portion of the diagnostic limited  
7 information from at least one of the plurality of recipients.

1 5. The system of claim 4, wherein the third computer readable medium  
2 further includes instructions executable by the third processor to:  
3 receive a diagnosis query, wherein the diagnosis query includes a specific  
4 diagnostic limited data,  
5 compare the specific diagnostic limited data to at least a portion of the  
6 diagnostic limited information, wherein a closest match is determined; and  
7 provide a diagnosis based at least in part on the closest match.

1 6. The system of claim 1, wherein the system further comprises a  
2 diagnostic controller communicably coupled to the system controller, wherein the diagnostic

3 controller includes a third processor and a third computer readable medium, and wherein the  
4 third computer readable medium includes instructions executable by the third processor to:  
5 provide a diagnostic information to a plurality of recipients;  
6 receive a diagnosis data associated with the portion of the diagnostic  
7 information from at least one of the plurality of recipients.

1 7. The system of claim 1, wherein:  
2 at least one of the data set comprising objective data collected by a physician,  
3 the data set comprising subjective data collected by a physician, and the data set from the  
4 implantable medical device are received via a communication network, and  
5 the communication network comprises at least one element selected from a  
6 group consisting of: the Internet, a cellular telephone network, a public switched telephone  
7 network, a local area network, a wide area network, and a virtual private network.

1 8. A medical information access system; the system comprising:  
2 a means for receiving medical information from a plurality of sources, wherein  
3 at least one of the plurality of sources is selected from a group consisting of: a physician, a  
4 patient, and an implantable medical device;  
5 a means for converting medical information from an implantable medical  
6 device to a format; and  
7 a means for distributing the medical information to one or more databases.

1 9. A system for controlling distribution of medical data, the system  
2 comprising:  
3 a microprocessor based controller;  
4 a computer readable medium, wherein the computer readable medium includes  
5 instructions executable by the microprocessor based controller to:  
6 receive a data set in a first format from an implantable medical device;  
7 identify a group associated with the implantable medical device, wherein the  
8 group is one of a plurality of groups;  
9 select an interpreter associated with the group; and  
10 apply the interpreter to the data stream, wherein the data stream is converted  
11 from the first format to a second format.

1                   10.     The system of claim 9, wherein the computer readable medium further  
2 includes instructions executable by the microprocessor based controller to:  
3                   store the data stream in the first format to a raw database; and  
4                   store the converted data stream in the second format to a comprehensive  
5 database.

1                   11.     The system of claim 9, wherein the computer readable medium further  
2 includes instructions executable by the microprocessor based controller to:  
3                   store the data stream in the first format to a raw database;  
4                   store a first portion of the converted data stream in the second format to a first  
5 subset database; and  
6                   store a second portion of the converted data stream in the second format to a  
7 second subset database.

1                   12.     The system of claim 11, wherein the computer readable medium  
2 further includes instructions executable by the microprocessor based controller to:  
3                   access the raw database;  
4                   generate at least one of the first subset database and the second subset  
5 database.

1                   13.     The system of claim 11, wherein the first subset database includes  
2 patient specific information.

1                   14.     The system of claim 11, wherein the second subset database includes  
2 diagnostic limited information.

1                   15.     The system of claim 14, wherein the computer readable medium  
2 further includes instructions executable by the microprocessor based controller to:  
3                   provide a portion of the diagnostic limited information is provided to a  
4 plurality of recipients;  
5                   receive a diagnosis data associated with the portion of the diagnostic limited  
6 information from at least one of the plurality of recipients; and store the diagnosis data to the  
7 second subset database.

1                   16.     The system of claim 15, wherein the computer readable medium  
2 further includes instructions executable by the microprocessor based controller to:  
3                   receive a diagnosis query, wherein the diagnosis query includes a specific  
4 diagnostic limited data,  
5                   compare the specific diagnostic limited data to at least a portion of the  
6 diagnostic limited information, wherein a closest match is determined; and  
7                   provide a diagnosis based at least in part on the closest match.

1                   17.     The system of claim 9, wherein the computer readable medium further  
2 includes instructions executable by the microprocessor based controller to:  
3                   receive a data set comprising objective data collected by a physician; and  
4 receive a data set comprising subjective data collected by a physician.

1                   18.     The system of claim 9, wherein the data set in the first format from the  
2 implantable medical device is received via a communication network.

1                   19.     The system of claim 18, wherein the data set in the first format from  
2 the implantable medical device is gathered by a gathering device selected from a group  
3 consisting of: a device group specific programmer, a bedside monitor, and a mobile monitor.

1                   20.     The system of claim 18, wherein the communication network  
2 comprises at least one element selected from a group consisting of: the Internet, a cellular  
3 telephone network, a public switched telephone network, a local area network, a wide area  
4 network, and a virtual private network.

1                   21.     The system of claim 9, wherein the microprocessor based controller  
2 includes a processor selected from a group consisting of: a single processor based system; a  
3 multi-processor based system with all of the processors co-located, and a multi-processor  
4 system with one or more of the multi-processors distributed across a computer network; and  
5 wherein the computer readable medium is selected from a group consisting of: a single  
6 computer readable media, a plurality of computer readable media co-located, and a plurality  
7 of computer readable media with one or more of the computer readable media distributed  
8 across the computer network.

1                   22.     A method for accessing and utilizing medical information, the method  
2 comprising:  
3                   receiving a data set in a first format from an implantable medical device via a  
4 communication network;  
5                   identifying an interpreter associated with the implantable medical device,  
6 wherein the interpreter is one of a plurality of interpreters; and  
7                   applying the interpreter to the data set, wherein the data set is converted from  
8 the first format to a second format.

1                   23.     The method of claim 22, wherein the communication network is  
2 selected from a group consisting of: the Internet, a cellular telephone network, a public  
3 switched telephone network, a local area network, a wide area network, and a virtual private  
4 network.

1                   24.     The method of claim 22, the method further comprising:  
2 storing the first data set in the first format to a raw database; and  
3 storing the converted data set in the second format to a comprehensive  
4 database.

1                   25.     The method of claim 22, the method further comprising:  
2 storing the first data set in the first format to a raw database; and  
3 storing a first portion of the converted data stream in the second format to a  
4 first subset database; and  
5                   storing a second portion of the converted data stream in the second format to a  
6 second subset database.

1                   26.     The method of claim 25, the method further comprising:  
2 accessing the raw database; and  
3 generating at least one of the first subset database and the second subset  
4 database.

1                   27.     The method of claim 25, wherein the first subset database includes  
2 patient specific information, and wherein the second subset database includes diagnostic  
3 limited information.

1                    28.     The method of claim 22, wherein the method further comprises:  
2                    providing a portion of a diagnostic limited information is to a plurality of  
3 recipients;  
4                    receiving a diagnosis data associated with the portion of the diagnostic limited  
5 information from at least one of the plurality of recipients; and  
6                    storing the diagnosis data to the comprehensive database.

1                    29.     The method of claim 28, wherein the method further comprises:  
2                    receiving a diagnosis query, wherein the diagnosis query includes a specific  
3 diagnostic limited data,  
4                    comparing the specific diagnostic limited data to at least a portion of the  
5 diagnostic limited information, wherein a closest match is determined; and  
6                    providing a diagnosis based at least in part on the closest match.